

*Annals* TO THE  
NEW WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for 1897.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year the total number of deaths registered was 174. These do not all, strictly speaking, belong to this district, as a large proportion of those who died in the County Hospital, although registered here, were brought in from other districts, and consequently must be deducted. On the other hand there are several deaths occurring outside the district which must be added. This will reduce the total to 139, and is equal to a death-rate of 11·5 per 1000, divided up as follows :—

		1897		1896		1895
Twyford	...	12·9	...	15·2	...	13·5
Worthy..	...	9·3	...	10·0	...	13·7
Micheldever	...	11·6	...	14·2	...	15·5
Suburban	...	11·6	...	10·3	...	10·5
Totals ...	...	11·5	...	12·9	...	13·4
Zymotic	...	0·6	...	1·2	...	0·6

It will be seen that in three of the sub-divisions the figures are lower than those of the two previous years. Also, comparing the totals for the last three years with those of ten years ago, the death-rate shows a great improvement :—

1885	...	16·26	1886	...	15·93	1887	...	16·34
1895	...	13·40	1896	...	12·90	1897	...	11·50

There have been very few deaths from Zymotic disease, and only 26 cases of infectious disease were notified. Measles and whooping cough have been very prevalent in many parts of the district, several of the schools having to be closed. These two diseases were the cause of five deaths which is small considering the number of cases which occurred.

With the exception of a few isolated cases the district has been free from any other epidemic disease.

Two cases of enteric fever occurred, and in both instances defective sanitary arrangements were discovered.

Eight cases of diphtheria were reported, but two of these afterwards proved to be ordinary sore throats due to defective drains and not diphtheretic. Of the remaining six cases, three were contracted at a school outside the district, and one a servant girl was sent home with the disease. No definite cause could be found for the other two cases except that the houses were damp. The diagnosis in all cases was confirmed by bacteriological examination and each one was treated with anti-diphtheretic serum, no case ending fatally.

Scarlet fever was notified on six occasions in various parts of the district, but in no instance did the disease spread beyond the case reported. Four of these were contracted outside the district, but the cause of the other two could not be ascertained.

Seven cases of erysipelas were notified, six of which occurred in an institution where there were sanitary defects.



Much work has been done in improving the sanitary condition of houses, more especially with regard to drainage. In houses which have been built since the bye-laws came into force, drains have been properly laid; but before that time much carelessness was shown, and very few of those which have been tested were found satisfactory. In some of the old houses very grave defects were found. In one instance, a cesspool ventilated by means of an overflow pipe from a cistern direct into the house. In another case, a leaden soil-pipe, hidden in an inside wall, had been eaten through by rats, and two cesspools in constant use were discovered under the floor. In each case serious illness resulted. It is often said when defective drains are found that there has been no illness in the house. By this is meant definite disease, such as Typhoid or Diphtheria, but although this may be so, yet there is not the least doubt that sore throats, diarrhoea, and cases of ill-defined fever amongst children—are in reality due to sewer air finding its way into the house and so polluting the air and food.

During the year several important steps have been taken:—

The Infectious Hospital has been opened, and although only four cases of Diphtheria have been admitted, yet it has been of great service, as undoubtedly the disease would have spread in each case, as it was impossible to isolate them at home.

Bye-laws have come into force, and have already proved of much value.

A system of Scavenging has been provided for the parishes of Bishopstoke and St. Faith Without, and schemes for the sewerage of these places have been drawn up.

Water-mains have been laid on by the South Hants Water Company to Shawford and Twyford.

Altogether the year has been a most satisfactory one, as not only has much progress been made in Sanitation, but also the amount of sickness and mortality has been very low.

Appended are the usual tables, together with that of the Inspector of Nuisances.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEO. A. E. ROBERTS, D.P.H.,

*February 8th, 1898.*

*Medical Officer of Health.*



(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1897, in the New Winchester Rural District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.						Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Injuries	All other Diseases	Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken in account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto	8	...	...	...	...	1	7	under 5																											
								5 upwards																											
Deaths occurring within district among persons not belonging thereto	43	3	2	5	13	16	4	under 5																											
								5 upwards		1																									

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates :—Area in Acres—62,016      Population (last Census)—11613 ; Ditto (estimated to middle of 1897)—12026.  
Death Rates :—General—11·5 per 1000 population, estimated to middle of 1897 ; Infant (under one year of age)—96·4 per 1000 Births Registered.



(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS,  
*coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897, in the New  
 Winchester Rural District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	POPULATION AT ALL AGES		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.					
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1897			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Fevers.					Cholera	Erysipelas	Typhoid or Enteric	Typhus	Membranous Croup	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Typhoid or Enteric	Typhus	
									Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal										
<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6
TWYFORD ... ..	4474	4640	153	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	.....	3	4	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
WORTHY (H) ... ..	2992	2992	60	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	.....	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
MICHELDEVER ... ..	2294	2332	49	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
SUBURBAN ... ..	1853	2062	49	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTALS ... ..	11613	12026	311	Under 5 ..... 5 upwards	.....	5	7	1	.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....

“ Notification of Infectious Disease ” has been compulsory in the District since 1st January, 1890.  
 ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—The Diamond Jubilee Hospital situate in the Parish of Easton.

February 15th, 1898. GEO. A. E. ROBERTS.



## NEW WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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### INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1897.

- 52 Complaints received.
- 10 Houses disinfected.
- 9 Nuisances from Overcrowding abated.
- 53 Houses repaired, 9 closed owing to their insanitary condition.
- 123 Houses where the Drains have been repaired, trapped, and ventilated.
- 38 Samples of Water collected for analysis.
- 10 Houses newly supplied with Water.
- 20 New Earth Closets provided to replace old Privies.
- 23 New Privies built.
- 142 Nuisances abated from Overflowing Cesspools.
- 3 Nuisances abated from Pollution of Streams.
- 27 Nuisances abated from Accumulation of Manure, etc.
- 15 Nuisances abated arising from Animals being improperly kept.
- 7 Nuisances abated arising from Gipsy encampments.
- 20 Large Houses the Drains have been tested with the smoke machine.
- All Bakehouses, Slaughter Houses, and Laundries have been periodically inspected. 6 Bakehouses Whitewashed.

### COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Out of the 50 registered Dairies reported in the District last year, 2 have become void, and 3 new ones have been registered, making a total of 51.

### PETROLEUM.

There are 34 persons who retail Petroleum in the District, and 15 dealers who hawk Petroleum through the villages in vans. All the stores and vans have been occasionally inspected. I have also collected and tested 13 samples of Petroleum Oil, all of which have been in accordance with the Petroleum Act.

(Signed)

D. DENHAM,  
*Inspector.*

Easton,  
January 2nd, 1898.



TO THE  
NEW WINCHESTER  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
For the Year 1897.

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